

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 4, and 5 are pending. Claims 1, 4, and 5, which are independent, are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1, 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by US Publication No. 2002/0164149 to Wilkinson (hereinafter, merely "Wilkinson").

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"...a master file generating means for generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file separately from each other,

wherein the master file includes a pointer to each of a plurality of video files, the respective audio files of a plurality of channels, a file unit metadata file, a frame unit metadata file, and an auxiliary file..." (Emphasis added)

Support for the above-identified features is at least at paragraphs [0143]-[0145].

The master file generating process is further described in paragraphs [0200]-[0206] and Figure

12. Paragraphs [0143]-[0145] and [0203]-[0205] of the Specification are reproduced below:

[0143] Then, a master file (Master File) describing a pointer to each of the video file, the respective audio files of the eight channels, the file unit metadata file, the frame unit metadata file, and the auxiliary file is formed in the AV independent format.

[0144] Specifically, the master file is described in XML (Extensible Markup Language), for example. As the pointer to each of the video file, the respective audio files of the eight channels, the file unit metadata file, the frame unit metadata file, and the auxiliary file, a file name of each file, for example, is described in the master file.

[0145] It is thus possible to refer from the master file to the video file, the respective audio files of the eight channels, the file unit metadata file, the frame unit metadata file, and the auxiliary file.

[0203] When a file in the standard AV format is supplied to and stored in the buffer 31 (FIG. 8), for example, the master file generating process is started. First, in step S1, the master file generating unit 32 (FIG. 8) generates file names of a file unit metadata file, a frame unit metadata file, an auxiliary file, a video file, and an audio file of each channel. The process proceeds to step S2. In step S2, the master file generating unit 32 generates a master file describing a link to the file of each file name generated in step S1 in XML. The master file generating unit 32 supplies the master file to the buffer 44 to store the master file in the buffer 44. Then the master file generating process is ended.

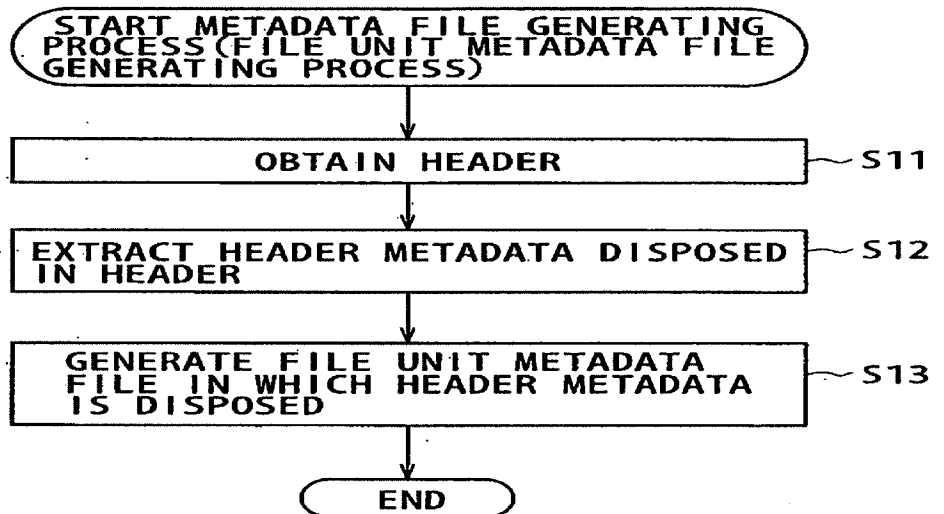
[0204] The file unit metadata file generating process for generating the file unit metadata file will next be described with reference to the flowchart of FIG. 12.

[0205] When a file in the standard AV format is supplied to and stored in the buffer 31 (FIG. 8), for example, the file unit metadata file generating process is started. First, in step S11, the header obtaining unit 33 obtains a header from the file in the standard AV format stored in the buffer 31. The header obtaining unit 33 supplies the header to the header metadata extracting unit 35. The process proceeds to step S12. In step S12, the header metadata extracting unit 35 extracts header metadata from the header supplied from the header obtaining unit 33. The header metadata extracting unit 35 supplies file unit metadata disposed in the header metadata to the metadata file generating unit 37. The process proceeds to step S13. In step S13, the metadata file generating unit 37 generates a file unit metadata file in which the file unit metadata supplied from the header metadata extracting unit 35 is disposed. The metadata file generating unit 37 supplies the file unit metadata file to the buffer 44 to store the file unit metadata file in the buffer 44. Then the file unit metadata file generating process is ended.

Figure 12 of the Specification is reproduced below.

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FIG. 12



As understood by Applicants, Wilkinson relates to a method and apparatus for combining data with other material. The present invention also relates to a signal processing apparatus arranged to carry out the method, a digital bitstream and a computer program product.

Applicants respectfully submit that Wilkinson fails to teach the above discussed feature of claim 1. Specifically, Wilkinson fails to teach a master file generating means for

generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file separately from each other, and that the master file is a pointer to each of a plurality of video files, the respective audio files of a plurality of channels, a file unit metadata file, a frame unit metadata file, and an auxiliary file, as recited in claim 1.

Specifically, the Office Action dated April 28, 2009 concedes that Wilkinson does not teach generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file.

Applicants submit that Wilkinson does not teach generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that Wilkinson does not teach that the master file is a pointer to each of a plurality of video files, the respective audio files of a plurality of channels, a file unit metadata file, a frame unit metadata file, and an auxiliary file, as recited in claim 1.

The cited disclosure, paragraphs [0049]-[0053] and paragraph [0147], reproduced below provide no teaching or suggestion to the above-identified features of claim 1:

The File Header

[0049] The file header contains a Preamble followed by Header Metadata, and optionally an index table.

[0050] The Pre-ambble preferably starts with a fixed Run-in byte sequence of e.g. 8 bytes. That is followed by Key, Length Value (KLV) encoded preamble data pack which comprises:

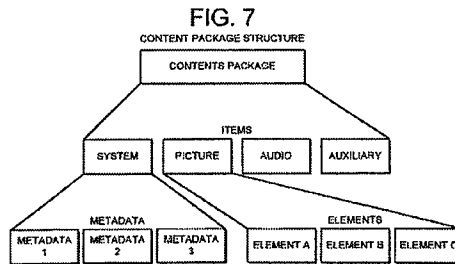
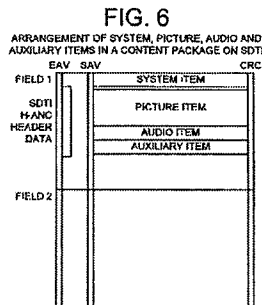
[0051] an SMPTE Pack label of 12 bytes (the Key);

[0052] followed by one or more Length bytes, (4 in this example); which is followed in this example by a null filled value field. The length byte indicates the amount of data in the value field.

[0053] The SMPTE pack label defines the File as an MXF file

[0147] FIGS. 10 to 12 show mapping of SDI into SDTI followed by mapping of SDTI into an MXF file. In alternative embodiments, SDI is mapped directly into an MXF file, the file body containing uncompressed video. The Header Metadata is contained in audio frames or in the VBI lines in the file body. Thus referring to FIG. 14 Header Metadata is created by a creator 30. Audio is encoded by an encoder 44. An SDI encoder 32 inserts uncompressed video into the active data space. The header Metadata is inserted into either audio frames operating in non-audio mode or into the VBI as described above. The metadata is repetitively distributed over the SDI video frames in the VBI or in the audio frames as described above. A recorder 381 records the SDI bitstream without compression of the video. The recorder may be a disc recorder or a tape recorder. The SDI bitstream is reproduced from the recorder and a data de-embedder 40 separates the Header Metadata from the video and audio. An MXF file creator 42 maps the Header Metadata into the file header and the video and audio into the file body as shown in FIG. 1. The MXF file may be transferred to the network and/or computer file storage denoted schematically at 46. The MXF file may be transferred from the network and/or storage 46 to a recorder 541, which may be identical to the recorder 381. For that purpose, the MXF file is fed from the network/storage 46 to an SDI encoder which maps the MXF file into an SDI bitstream with repetition of the Header Metadata as described above. The recorder 541 records the SDI bitstream which may be reproduced therefrom and an SDI decoder 60 separates the Header Metadata, the video and the audio.

The cited figures of Wilkinson also fail to provide any teaching of the above-identified features of claim 1. See Figures 6 and 7 below:



Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Wilkinson fails to teach the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Wilkinson and Ando fail to teach or suggest that a master file generating means for generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file separately from each other, and that the master file is a pointer to each of a plurality of video files, the respective audio files of a plurality of channels, a file unit metadata file, a frame unit metadata file, and an auxiliary file.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, the independent claims 4 and 5 are also patentable.

CONCLUSION

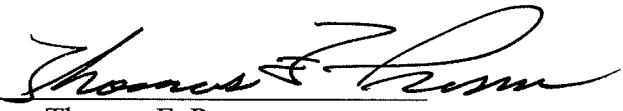
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate the portion, or portions, of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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